

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/387,948

Applicant(s)

NOGUCHI, SACHIKO

Examiner

Ronald Abelson

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-8, 10-21, and 23-24; renumbered as 1-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 September 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Regarding independent claims 1, 4, 10 - 12, 16, 17, 23, and 24, White teaches a method and apparatus for a voice gateway (fig. 4 box 104, 116) interconnecting IP networks (fig. 4 box 106) with other networks (fig. 4 box 102, 114) for voice communication.

The voice gateway comprises a call-setup part which after detecting a call-setup request from one of said other networks (fig. 5 box 128, 130, col. 9 lines 15 - 19), transmits a destination inquiring message (col. 9 lines 38 - 42) to a predetermined gateway (fig. 4 box 106, fig. 5 box 142, col. 9 line 43), and after receiving a destination determination message from a destination voice gateway (col. 9 lines 60-62, case of called station sending a busy message explicitly shown, col. 9 lines 52-53), performs a call setup towards a destination transport address included in said destination determination message from said destination voice gateway (col. 9 line 60 - 62).

The voice gateway transmits a destination number / telephone number (col. 9 lines 11-15) and a transport address / IP address (col. 6 lines 9-12) of said voice gateway to said predetermined gateway (fig. 5 box 140, 142, col. 9 lines 38-43).

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Note, in order for the receiving central office to inform the originating central office, the originating central office must send its transport address / IP address to the receiving central office.

Salama teaches the predetermined voice gateway holds a route selection table (col. 14 lines 11-22), collates the destination number of a destination inquiring message (4085277147, col. 14 lines 11-22) with steering numbers in the route selection table (E.164: 408, col. 14 lines 11-22) to select a corresponding steering number, selects a transport address from the route selection table based on the selected steering number (List of Next Hop Network Address, col. 14 lines 11-22), and forwards said destination inquiring message toward a next voice gateway addressed by the selected transport address (col. 14 lines 28-29), wherein said next voice gateway is one of a destination voice gateway and another voice gateway having address information for the destination voice gateway (col. 14 lines 10-11, 61-65).

However, nothing in the prior art of the record teaches or fairly suggests wherein said voice gateway transmits said destination inquiring message to an address for said

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predetermined voice gateway that is recorded in a declaration table of said voice gateway, said address for said predetermined gateway being determined *independently* of the destination number of the destination inquiring message. In contrast, Salama teaches said address for said predetermined gateway being determined *dependent* upon the destination number of the destination inquiring message.

Conclusion

2. Any comments considered necessary by the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments of Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald Abelson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3165. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Ronald Abelson
Examiner
Art Unit 2666


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